

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05469 280354Z

12

ACTION NEA-16

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R 280315Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5469

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, AF, EG

SUBJ: AFGHAN MILITARY DELEGATION VISITS EGYPT

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT BRIGADIER GENERAL ROKAI SULAIMAN AND FOUR OTHER AFGHAN MILITARY OFFICERS MADE A RECENT TRIP TO EGYPT. THEY PROBABLY LEFT KABUL AUGUST 3 AND RETURNED AUGUST 19.

2. DEPFONMIN WAHID ABDULLAH HAS CONFIRMED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT ONE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO DISCUSS TRAINING IN EGYPT FOR AFGHAN MILITARY OFFICERS.

3. ONE RELIABLE REPORT STATES THAT AN INITIAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO SEND 15 TO 20 AFGHAN OFFICERS TO EGYPT FOR TRAINING IN 1974. THE QUESTION OF EXPANDING THE PROGRAM IN THE FUTURE WAS DISCUSSED AND LEFT OPEN.

4. COMMENT: THIS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE SEEN IN LIGHT OF THE AFGHAN DESIRE TO REDUCE ITS OVERWHELMING RELIANCE ON THE
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PAGE 02 KABUL 05469 280354Z

SOVIETS FOR MILITARY TRAINING, AS IN THE CASE OF THE ARRANGE-

MENTS IT HAS MADE FOR MILITARY TRAINEES TO GO TO INDIA. IT IS
ALSO A SUCESS FOR AFGHAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO WIN SUPPORT
IN THE ARAB WORLD.

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